

Curbside recycling still not popular in township

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PERRY TOWNSHIP -

Although the trustees arranged for Universal Disposal to offer curbside recycling twice a month for about an additional \$4 per month, only about 325 households have signed up in the past year.

In December 2010, the trustees decided to sign a three-year contract with Universal because the Lake County Recycling Grant funds were being cut back 20 per-

cent annually over five years and then would be eliminated.

"(Residents) will get a 65-gallon rolling container and curbside pickup is every other week and the cost is going to be \$4 a month," said Township Administrator Wally Siegel at the 2010 meeting.

The township has continued to maintain the central recycling drop-off location at the Road Garage at 4720 Webb Rd. six days a week.

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However, it has had to pay to have an employee there at all times because so many people were dumping trash there as well when it was unattended.

"If we continue going the way we have been, we're going to be \$17,000 in the hole," Trustee Phil Haskell said.

Currently the township pays up to \$24,000 per year to have the recycling site, where yard waste is also accepted, monitored.

While Haskell wishes to continue with the recycling drop-off site, he suggested limiting it to Saturday and one day during the week.

When two residents attending the meeting said they were unaware of the curbside recycling availability, discussion proceeded as to how to ensure residents were all aware of the option.

"When I look at what we have to spend our money on, and we have the option of people paying a buck a week

to have the recycling picked up at their (curb); I'm not sure how I feel we can spend our money (to have a manned drop-off site six days a week)," said Trustee Rick Amos.

He said he thought other disposal companies might offer the option as well.

Haskell said he would not like to see people putting their newspapers, magazines and scrap paper in the curbside recycling containers, but rather drop them in the large Abitibi containers. All the money received from Abitibi goes to the Perry Scholarship Fund with the trustees contributing a matching amount.

The Abitibi bins are at: Perry Township Road Garage (Recycling Center), 4720 Webb Rd.; Rideout's IGA, 2736 North Ridge Rd.; Perry Middle School (overflow lot); and E. Dake Plumbing & Heating (formerly Champion Garden Town), 3747 North Ridge Rd.

Haskell said if a location

has more than 8,000 pounds picked up in a month, Abitibi will pay \$15 per ton, but if less is picked up, the price drops to just \$5 a ton.

In other business:

• Trustees decided to table discussion about the contracts with the Lake County Sheriff's Office for the coming spring, summer and fall months.

Last year the trustees paid about \$8,000 for patrols of the parks and cemeteries as needed and about \$12,000 to set up the speed trailer around the township and monitor it.

• Haskell said he would attend a meeting being hosted by Western Reserve Land Conservancy on a program to revitalize properties that were foreclosed upon and are not being maintained by the banks that purchased them.

He said he understood there was a plan to set up a board with two commissioners, the county treasurer, one mayor and one township

trustee.

"I'm going to be in there pitching for two township representatives and two from municipalities because I think the board needs to be populated by people living in the communities rather than let the commissioners dictate how things are going to go with us," Haskell said.

• Administrator Wally Siegel said another letter was received from ODNR which prompted him to place a call to Congressman Steve LaTourette.

The township has been wanting to put up a break wall which would help create a beach on the lakefront. While it had thought all was in order, ODNR keeps changing its requirements. One of the most troubling is that the township would need to have enough money set aside to tear down the wall if was deemed to be a problem.

The next regular trustees meeting will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24.